

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dominic Panicucci for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOSEPH A. FALCONE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of a great man, Hon. Joseph A. Falcone, who is retiring after twenty-five years on the bench from his position in the trial courts of his home county of Passaic, New Jersey. He will be honored on April 12, 2011 by his friends and colleagues for his service to his profession and his community.

It is only fitting that he be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth, for he has a long history of dedication, commitment and integrity.

Judge Joseph A. Falcone was born in Newark, New Jersey and is a product of that city's public school system. He received a B.A. degree from Rutgers University and went on to receive his J.D. degree from Rutgers-Camden School of Law in 1968. Judge Falcone commenced his legal career as a law secretary before being admitted to the Bar on November 27, 1968.

In September 1969, Judge Falcone was sworn in as an assistant Essex County prosecutor. He served in the appellate and trial section and as the Deputy Director of the City Council Organized Crime Strike Force. In September 1975, the judge was sworn in as the First Assistant Prosecutor for Passaic County. That same month he was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court.

On April 2, 1990, Judge Falcone was given the task of reorganizing the criminal justice system in Essex County. It had been described as "one of the slowest and least efficient of any urban county in the United States" by the National Center for State Courts. The reorganization was an overwhelming success. Five years later, the Justice Management Institute's report said, "Essex County, New Jersey is the scene of one of the most dramatic improvements in the handling of serious criminal cases that has taken place anywhere in the United States in the past thirty years." The feature article described Judge Falcone as "the management wizard of the New Jersey judiciary." He was asked to "repeat the miracle in Passaic County" where he had been transferred in May 1996 to serve as the Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division. On October 3, 1996, Judge Falcone was appointed to serve as the assignment judge for the vicinage.

During this time he authorized the creation of the Village Initiative, which was highly acclaimed. He also addressed and reduced criminal court backlogs and increased efficiency in the court system. A Herald News article of August 1997 noted that Judge Falcone had "made the criminal court system in Passaic County a trim and responsive operation." In 1999, Judge Falcone assumed the position

of Assignment Judge for the Essex Vicinage and again made his mandate to reduce backlogs and improve the efficiency of court operations. During his five-year tenure, both goals were achieved.

While serving as the Assignment Judge in the Essex Vicinage, two significant pilot programs were developed and implemented after approval by the Supreme Court; the Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative and the License Reinstatement Program. In addition, he authored *In re Fire at Seton Hall University*, 368 N.J.Super. 269 (Law Div. 2003), a mini-treatise on grand jury practice and procedure, which in connection with the Seton Hall fire case, he approved publication of a Grand Jury Presentment, which led to legislation making it mandatory for residential colleges to install fire sprinklers.

From August 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005, Judge Falcone served the Appellate Division. In 2004, he was elected to the Fellows of the American Bar Foundation and inducted into the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame. For many years of his twenty-five years on the bench, Judge Falcone served on the Model Criminal Jury Charges Committee as a member and Chair of the Conference of Criminal Presiding Judges, Chair of the Bail Forfeiture Judges Committee, Chair of the Judicial Council's IT Steering Committee, and a member of and in the 2003–2004 the Chair of the Judicial Council.

Since September 2005, Judge Falcone has been assigned to the trial courts; first in the Morris/Sussex Vicinage, and since September 2007 in his home county of Passaic. Judge Falcone resides in Wayne, NJ with Beverly, his wife and best friend for over thirty-two years, and their daughter Larissa.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the accomplishments of community leaders like Judge Falcone.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Judge Falcone's family, friends and everyone he has worked with throughout the years and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable achievements of the Honorable Joseph A. Falcone.

EDDIE THOMAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Eddie Thomas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Eddie Thomas is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Eddie Thomas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Eddie Thomas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedi-

cation and character in all his future accomplishments.

HONORING LONG-TIME COMMUNITY LEADER AND ACTIVIST MR. JOE YING CHIU

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great loss to our community, Mr. Joe Ying Chiu, who passed away on March 24, 2011 at the age of 76. My heart goes out to his wife, Marilyn; sons Steven and Edward; daughter Carolyn; his four grandchildren; and the rest of his family and friends.

Mr. Chiu was an extraordinary citizen, a role model for community activism and a powerful advocate for the Chinese American community. He was the living embodiment of the American Dream, having been born in China in 1934 and then emigrating to the United States as a "paper son" when he was just a teenager, first arriving in the San Francisco Bay area.

Like most immigrant children, he learned the values of hard work and perseverance at an early age. After meeting his wife Marilyn and marrying her in 1961, he went to work at his father-in-law's meat market in Pasadena, Southern California. It was there that his strong work ethic began paying off, and where he first honed his incredible business acumen.

With the help and support of his father-in-law, he eventually opened his own grocery store in Long Beach in 1967. That store, Hanson's Market, went on to become a fixture in the community and served the neighborhood for 25 years.

It was the beginning of a long career in the grocery business for Joe, who became a successful businessman and eventually owned and operated several different establishments.

After his retirement from the grocery business, Joe was able to focus his energy on a cause that had long been dear to his heart: advocating for the Chinese American community in Los Angeles' Chinatown. With his wife Marilyn, Joe became an active member of the Lung Kong Association, serving in several political offices in the organization.

He went on to become an avid and generous supporter of numerous civic, political and philanthropic events and charities that greatly benefited the Chinese community throughout the United States, China and Taiwan.

I urge all my House colleagues to join me in honoring our community hero, Mr. Joe Ying Chiu, for his remarkable service and contributions to our country.

FRANCISCO IBARRA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Francisco Ibarra for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Francisco Ibarra is a 9th grader at Jefferson Senior